

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (**Currently Amended**) An e-mail transmission/reception system including a mail terminal, a mail server, and a mail gateway, wherein said mail gateway is connected to said mail terminal via a network and to said mail server via another network,

wherein said mail server comprises:

an attached file holding unit operable to receive ~~an a single~~ a single e-mail addressed to a user ~~who possesses of~~ to said mail ~~terminal terminal~~, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and to hold a the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail; and

a mail ~~distribution management~~ management unit operable to ~~receive a file attached e-mail transmitted from said mail gateway and distribute the file attached e-mail to a respective address of one or more receivers of the file attached e-mail~~ generate a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

wherein said mail gateway comprises:

an attached file acquisition unit operable to receive from said mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to said mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers indentifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and to receive from said mail server the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

an identifier generation unit operable to ~~generate a the~~ generate a the unique identifier ~~for each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit, respectively~~ identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

a list transmission unit operable to ~~generate a an identifier~~ generate an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit and to transmit the identifier list to said mail terminal;

a reception unit operable to ~~receive an attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from said mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from said mail terminal to another mail terminal, the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail including at least one identifier among of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit for each of the plurality of attached files held by said attached file holding unit~~ receive a forwarding e-mail specifying a forwarding e-mail being forwarded from said mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from said mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail specifying forwarding e-mail including at least one identifier among of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit for each of the plurality of attached files held by said attached file holding unit identifiers, the at

least one unique identifier being selected at said mail terminal, at least of one the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and

—— an attached file acquisition unit operable to acquire at least one attached file from said attached file holding unit, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit;

—— a construction unit operable to construct a file attached e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit to the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit; and

a mail transmission and reception unit operable to transmit to said mail server a request for transmitting to said mail gateway the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier and to receive from said mail server the file attached e-mail constructed by said construction unit to said mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail; and

wherein said mail terminal comprises:

a list reception unit operable to receive the identifier list from said mail gateway;

a selection receiving unit operable to, based on the received identifier list, to display items indicating the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner;

a preparation unit operable to prepare the attached file specifying e-mail forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including a the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of said mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to the file attached e-mail included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and

a transmission unit operable to transmit the prepared attached file specifying forwarding e-mail to said mail gateway gateway;

wherein said attached file acquisition unit is operable to receive from said mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail;

wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

a construction unit operable to construct a file attached forwarding e-mail by

attaching the at least one attached file received from said mail server to the forwarding e-mail received from said mail terminal; and

wherein said mail server further comprises:

a mail distribution unit operable to receive the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from said mail gateway and to distribute the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claim 2 (**Currently Amended**) The e-mail transmission/reception system of Claim 1, wherein:

~~said-attached file holding mail management~~ unit is operable to, whenever ~~receiving said attached file holding unit receives~~ an e-mail that includes attached files, generate ~~a the~~ list of the plurality of attached files and pass the list of the plurality of attached files to said ~~identifier generation attached file acquisition~~ unit; and

said identifier generation unit is operable to generate the unique identifier for each of the plurality of attached files, respectively, in accordance with the list of the plurality of attached files passed by said ~~attached file holding mail management~~ unit.

Claim 3 (**Currently Amended**) The e-mail transmission/reception system of Claim 1,

wherein said mail terminal further comprises:

a file format registration unit operable to register one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address ~~that the receiver should adopt~~ in said mail gateway;

wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

a file format storage unit operable to store ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and file formats that are registered by said file format registration unit; and

a file format conversion unit operable to convert a file format of each attached file for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address in accordance with the ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and the file formats that are stored in the said file format storage unit; and

wherein said construction unit is operable to construct the file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching each attached file converted by said file format conversion unit from and as a substitute for each attached file ~~acquired~~ received by said attached file acquisition unit, respectively.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The e-mail transmission/reception system of Claim 1,

wherein said mail terminal further comprises:

a sharing notification unit operable to notify said mail gateway that one or more attached files included in an e-mail addressed to the user of said mail terminal are to be shared with other users;

wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

an attached file sharing unit operable to, when receiving the notification that the one or more attached files are to be shared with the other users from said mail terminal, share each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit with the other users; and

a shared identifier generation unit operable to generate a shared identifier for each of the attached files shared by said attached file sharing unit, the shared identifier being available for sharers of the attached files;

wherein said sharing notification unit includes:

a shared file notification unit operable to notify said mail gateway of one or more identifiers selected by the user from the identifier list as substitutes for the one or more attached files that are permitted to be shared; and

a sharer notification unit operable to notify said mail gateway of one or more sharers of each of the attached files that are to be shared with the other users;

wherein said attached file sharing unit is operable to share attached files that correspond to the identifiers notified from said shared file notification unit among attached files held by said attached file holding unit with the sharers notified from said sharer notification unit;

wherein said list transmission unit is further operable to transmit a list of the shared identifiers to the sharers of the attached files;

wherein said attached file acquisition unit is further operable to acquire attached files that correspond to the shared identifiers; and

wherein said list reception unit is further operable to receive a list of shared identifiers that have a one to one correspondence to each of the attached files that are shared by the user of said mail terminal as one member of the sharers.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) An e-mail transmission/reception system including a mail

terminal and a mail gateway, said mail gateway being connected to said mail terminal via a network,

wherein said mail gateway comprises:

~~an attached file holding unit operable to receive an a single~~ e-mail addressed to a user ~~who possesses of said mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files~~ and ~~to hold a the~~ plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

~~_____ a mail management unit operable to generate a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~_____ an attached file acquisition unit operable to receive from said mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to said mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers indentifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and to acquire from said attached file holding unit the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;~~

~~an identifier generation unit operable to generate a the unique identifier for each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit, respectively identifiers indentifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the acquired list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~a list transmission unit operable to generate a an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit and to transmit the identifier list to said mail terminal; and~~

~~a reception unit operable to receive an attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from said mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from said mail terminal to another mail terminal, the attached file specifying forwarding email-mail including at least one identifier among of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit for each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at said mail terminal, at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and~~

~~_____ an attached file acquisition unit operable to acquire at least one attached file from said attached file holding unit, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit;~~

~~_____ a construction unit operable to construct a file attached e-mail by attaching the at~~

~~least one attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit to the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit; and~~

~~_____ a mail distribution unit operable to distribute the file attached e-mail constructed by said construction unit to a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail; and~~

~~wherein said mail terminal comprises:~~

~~a list reception unit operable to receive the identifier list from said mail gateway;~~

~~a selection receiving unit operable to, based on the received identifier list, display items indicating the unique identifiers in the received identifier list, in a selectable manner;~~

~~a preparation unit operable to prepare the attached file specifying e-mail forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including a the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of said mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to the file attached e-mail included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and~~

~~a transmission unit operable to transmit the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail prepared by said preparation unit to said mail gateway gateway;~~

~~_____ wherein said attached file acquisition unit is operable to acquire from said attached file holding unit the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail; and~~

~~_____ wherein said mail gateway further comprises:~~

~~_____ a construction unit operable to construct a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired from said attached file holding unit to the forwarding e-mail received from said mail terminal; and~~

~~_____ a mail distribution unit operable to distribute the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.~~

Claim 6 (**Currently Amended**) The e-mail transmission/reception system of Claim 5, wherein:

~~said attached file holding mail management unit is operable to, whenever receiving said attached file holding unit receives an e-mail that includes attached files, generate a the list of the plurality of attached files and pass the list of the plurality of attached files to said identifier generation attached file acquisition unit; and~~

~~said identifier generation unit is operable to generate the unique identifier for each of the~~

attached files, respectively, in accordance with the list of the plurality of attached files passed by said ~~attached file holding mail management~~ unit.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) The e-mail transmission/reception system of Claim 5,

wherein said mail terminal further comprises:

a file format registration unit operable to register one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address ~~that the receiver should adopt~~ in said mail gateway;

wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

a file format storage unit operable to store ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and file formats that are registered by said file format registration unit; and

a file format conversion unit operable to convert a file format of each attached ~~files~~ file for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address in accordance with the ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and the file formats that are stored in said file format storage unit; and

wherein said construction unit is operable to construct the file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching each attached file converted by said file format conversion unit from and as a substitute for each attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit, respectively.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The e-mail transmission/reception system of Claim 5,

wherein said mail terminal further comprises:

a sharing notification unit operable to notify said mail gateway that one or more attached files included in the e-mail addressed to the user of said mail terminal are to be shared with other users;

wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

an attached file sharing unit operable to, when receiving the notification that the one or more attached files are to be shared with the other users from said mail terminal, share each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit with the other users; and

a shared identifier generation unit operable to generate a shared identifier for each of the attached files shared by said attached file sharing unit, the shared identifier being available for sharers of the attached files;

wherein said sharing notification unit includes:

a shared file notification unit operable to notify said mail gateway of one or more identifiers selected by the user from the identifier list as substitutes for the one or more attached files that are permitted to be shared; and

a sharer notification unit operable to notify said mail gateway of one or more sharers of each of the attached files that are to be shared with the other users;

wherein said attached file sharing unit is operable to share attached files that correspond to the identifiers notified from said shared file notification unit among attached files held by said attached file holding unit with the sharers notified from said sharer notification unit;

wherein said list transmission unit is further operable to transmit a list of the shared identifiers to the sharers of the attached files;

wherein said attached file acquisition unit is further operable to acquire attached files that correspond to the shared identifiers; and

wherein said list reception unit is further operable to receive a list of shared identifiers that have a one to one correspondence to each of the attached files that are shared by the user of said mail terminal as one member of the sharers.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A mail gateway that is connected to a mail terminal via a network and a mail server via another network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, and the mail server receiving an a single e-mail addressed to the a user of the mail terminal and holding terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files included in the received e-mail, holding the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail,~~ said mail gateway comprising:

an attached file acquisition unit operable to receive from the mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and to receive from the mail server the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

an identifier generation unit operable to generate the unique identifier for identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files held by the mail server, respectively files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

a list transmission unit operable to generate the an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit and to transmit the identifier list to the mail terminal;

a reception unit operable to receive the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the attached file specifying forwarding email e-mail including at least one identifier among of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit for each of the plurality of attached files held by said attached file holding unit identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal, at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and

an attached file acquisition unit operable to acquire at least one attached file from the mail server, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit;

a construction unit operable to construct the file attached e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit to the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit; and

a mail transmission and reception unit operable to transmit to the mail server a request for transmitting to said mail gateway the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier and to receive from the mail server the file attached e-mail constructed by said construction unit to the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail;

wherein the mail terminal comprises:

a list reception unit operable to receive the identifier list from said mail gateway;

a selection receiving unit operable to display the unique identifiers in the received identifier list, in a selectable manner;

a preparation unit operable to prepare the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at

least one unique identifier; and

a transmission unit operable to transmit the forwarding e-mail prepared by the preparation unit to said mail gateway;

wherein said attached file acquisition unit is operable to receive from the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail; and

wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

a construction unit operable to construct a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file received from the mail server to the forwarding e-mail received from the mail terminal; and

wherein the mail server further comprises:

a mail distribution unit operable to receive the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from said mail gateway and to distribute the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) The mail gateway of Claim 9, wherein:

the mail server functions, whenever receiving an e-mail that includes attached files, so as to generate a the list of the plurality of attached files and pass the list of the plurality of attached files to said mail gateway; and

said identifier generation unit is operable to generate the unique identifier for each of the attached files, respectively, in accordance with the list of the plurality of attached files passed by the mail server.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) The mail gateway of Claim 9, further comprising:

a file format storage unit operable to store ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and file formats that are registered by the mail terminal; and

a file format conversion unit operable to convert one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address in accordance with the ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and the file formats that are stored in said file format storage unit;

wherein the mail terminal functions so as to register the one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address ~~that the receiver should adopt~~ in said mail

gateway; and

wherein said construction unit is operable to construct the file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching each attached file converted by said file format conversion unit from and as substitutes a substitute for each attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit, respectively.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) The mail gateway of Claim 9, further comprising:

an attached file sharing unit operable to, when receiving a notification that attached files are to be shared with other users from the mail terminal, share each of the attached files held by the mail server with the other users;

a shared identifier generation unit operable to generate a shared identifier for each of the attached files shared by said attached file sharing unit, the shared identifier being available for sharers of the attached files;

wherein the mail terminal functions so as to notify said mail gateway that one or more attached files are to be shared with other users by means of identifiers respectively corresponding to the one or more attached files, the attached files being included in an e-mail addressed to the user of the mail terminal and being permitted to be shared with other users, and notify said mail gateway of the one or more sharers who are to share the one or more attached files;

wherein said attached file sharing unit is operable to share the one or more attached files that correspond to the one or more identifiers notified from the mail terminal out of attached files held by the mail server among the notified sharers;

wherein said list transmission unit is further operable to transmit a list of the shared identifiers to the sharers of the attached files; and

wherein said attached file acquisition unit is further operable to acquire attached files that correspond to the shared identifiers.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A mail gateway that is connected to a mail terminal via a network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail,~~ said mail gateway comprising:

~~an attached file holding unit operable to receive an a single e-mail addressed to a the user who possesses of the mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and to hold a the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~a mail management unit operable to generate a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~an attached file acquisition unit operable to receive from the mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers indentifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and to acquire from said attached file holding unit the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;~~

~~an identifier generation unit operable to generate the unique identifier for each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit, respectively identifiers indentifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the acquired list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~a list transmission unit operable to generate the an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit and to transmit the identifier list to the mail terminal;~~

~~a reception unit operable to receive the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail including at least one identifier among of the unique identifiers generated by said identifier generation unit for each of the plurality of attached files held by said attached file holding unit, identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal, at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~an attached file acquisition unit operable to acquire at least one attached file from said attached file holding unit, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit;~~

~~a construction unit operable to construct the file attached e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit to the attached file specifying e-mail received by said reception unit; and~~

~~a mail distribution unit operable to distribute the file attached e-mail constructed by said construction unit to a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail~~

_____ wherein the mail terminal comprises:

_____ a list reception unit operable to receive the identifier list from said mail gateway;

_____ a selection receiving unit operable to display the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner;

_____ a preparation unit operable to prepare the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and

_____ a transmission unit operable to transmit the prepared forwarding e-mail to said mail gateway;

_____ wherein said attached file acquisition unit is operable to acquire from said attached file holding unit the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail;

_____ wherein said mail gateway further comprises:

_____ a construction unit operable to construct a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired from said attached file holding unit to the forwarding e-mail received from the mail terminal; and

_____ a mail distribution unit operable to distribute the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claim 14 (**Currently Amended**) The mail gateway of Claim 13, wherein:

~~said attached file holding mail management~~ unit is operable to, whenever ~~receiving~~ said attached file holding unit receives an e-mail that includes attached files, generate ~~a~~ the list of the plurality of attached files and pass the list of the plurality of attached files to said identifier generation unit; and

said identifier generation unit is operable to generate the unique identifier for each of the attached files, respectively, in accordance with the list of the plurality of attached files passed by ~~said attached file holding mail management~~ unit.

Claim 15 (**Currently Amended**) The mail gateway of Claim 13, further comprising:

a file format storage unit operable to store ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and file formats

that are registered by the mail terminal; and

a file format conversion unit operable to convert one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address in accordance with the ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and the file formats that are stored in said file format storage unit,

wherein the mail terminal functions so as to register the one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ users' address ~~that the receiver should adopt~~ in said mail gateway, and

said construction unit is operable to construct the file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching each attached file converted by said file format conversion unit from and as a substitute for each attached file acquired by said attached file acquisition unit, respectively.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended) The mail gateway of Claim 13, further comprising:

an attached file sharing unit operable to, when receiving a notification that attached files are to be shared with other users from the mail terminal, share each of the attached files held by said attached file holding unit with the other users; and

a shared identifier generation unit operable to generate a shared identifier for each of the attached files shared by said attached file sharing unit, wherein the shared identifier is available for sharers of the attached files;

wherein the mail terminal functions so as to notify said mail gateway that one or more attached files are to be shared with other users by means of identifiers respectively corresponding to the one or more attached files, the attached files being included in an e-mail addressed to the user of the mail terminal and being permitted to be shared with the other users, and notify said mail gateway of one or more sharers who share the one or more attached files;

wherein said attached file sharing unit is operable to share the one or more attached files that correspond to the one or more identifiers notified from the mail terminal out of attached files held by the mail server among the notified sharers;

wherein said list transmission unit is further operable to transmit a list of the shared identifiers to the sharers of the attached files; and

wherein said attached file acquisition unit is further operable to acquire attached files that correspond to the shared identifiers.

Claim 17 (**Currently Amended**) A mail terminal that is connected to a mail gateway via a network, the mail gateway being connected to a mail server via another network, the mail server receiving a single e-mail addressed to a user of said mail terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, the mail server holding the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway receiving from said mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to said mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and the mail gateway receiving from said mail server the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request, ~~the mail gateway generating a respectively unique identifier for each of a plurality of attached files included in an e-mail addressed to a user of said mail terminal and managing the generated identifiers,~~ the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the gateway generating an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by the mail server and transmitting the identifier list to said mail terminal, the mail gateway receiving a forwarding e-mail from said mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from said mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one of the unique identifiers being selected at the mail terminal, the mail gateway transmitting to the mail server a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifiers and receiving from the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail, said mail terminal comprising:

a list reception unit operable to ~~receive a list of the unique identifiers~~ the identifier list from the mail gateway for each of the plurality of attached files included in the e-mail;

a selection receiving unit operable to ~~based on the received identifier list,~~ display items indicating the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner;

a preparation unit operable to ~~prepare an attached file specifying the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including a the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of said mail terminal as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, the at least one identifier selected by the user corresponding to the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to the e-mail included~~

in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier ; and

a transmission unit operable to transmit the ~~attached file specifying forwarding~~ e-mail prepared by said preparation unit to the mail ~~gateway~~ gateway;

wherein the mail gateway is operable to receive from the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail; and

wherein the mail gateway comprises:

a construction unit operable to construct a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file received from the mail server to the forwarding e-mail received from said mail terminal; and

wherein the mail server comprises:

a mail distribution unit operable to receive the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail gateway and to distribute the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended) The mail terminal of Claim 17, further comprising:

a file format registration unit operable to register one or more file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address ~~that the receiver should adopt~~ in the mail gateway;

wherein the mail gateway functions so as to store ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and file formats that are registered by said mail terminal, and convert file formats of attached files for each ~~receiver's~~ user's address in accordance with the stored ~~receivers'~~ users' addresses and file formats.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The mail terminal of Claim 17, further comprising:

a sharing notification unit operable to notify the mail gateway that one or more attached files included in an e-mail addressed to the user of said mail terminal are to be shared with other users;

wherein said sharing notification unit includes:

a shared file notification unit operable to notify the mail gateway of one or more identifiers selected by the user from the identifier list as substitutes for the one or more attached files that are permitted to be shared; and

a sharer notification unit operable to notify the mail gateway of one or more sharers of each of the attached files that are permitted to be shared with the other users; and

wherein the mail gateway functions so as to share attached files respectively corresponding to the identifiers notified from said shared file notification unit among the sharers notified from said sharer notification unit and generate a shared identifier for each of the shared attached files, the shared identifier being available for the sharers.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) A method for controlling an e-mail transmission/reception system including a mail terminal, a mail server, and a mail gateway, the mail gateway being connected to the mail terminal via a network and to the mail server via another network, said method comprising:

- receiving, in the mail server, ~~an a single~~ e-mail addressed to a user ~~who possesses of the mail-terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files,~~ and holding ~~a the~~ plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail in the mail server;

- generating, in the mail server, a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

- receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail server, the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

- generating, in the mail gateway, a unique identifier for each of the attached files held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

- generating, in the mail gateway, a list of the identifiers an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the attached files, and transmitting the identifier list from the mail gateway to the mail terminal;

- receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway;

- displaying, in the mail terminal, ~~based on the received identifier list, items indicating the~~ unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner;

~~preparing, in the mail terminal, an attached file specifying e-mail a forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including a at least one of the unique identifier identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected in said displaying of the unique identifiers at the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~transmitting the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail prepared in said preparing of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail from the mail terminal to the mail gateway;~~

~~receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail transmitted in said transmitting of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail;~~

~~acquiring, in the mail gateway from the mail server, at least one attached file from the mail server, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail the at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~constructing, in the mail gateway, the file attached e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached files acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail; and~~

~~transmitting the file attached e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached e-mail from the mail gateway to the mail server; and~~

~~receiving, in the mail server from the gateway, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted in said transmitting of the file attached e-mail and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail from the mail server to a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail to the another mail terminal.~~

Claims 21-23 (Canceled)

Claim 24 (**Currently Amended**) A method for controlling an e-mail transmission/reception system including a mail terminal and a mail gateway, the mail gateway being connected to the mail terminal via a network, said method comprising:

receiving, in the mail gateway, ~~an a single~~ e-mail addressed to a user ~~of who possesses~~ the mail terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding ~~a the~~ plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail in the mail gateway;

generating, in the mail gateway, a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

receiving for the mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and acquiring the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

generating, in the mail gateway, a unique identifier for each of the attached files held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

generating, in the mail gateway, a list of the identifiers an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the attached files, and transmitting the identifier list from the mail gateway to the mail terminal;

receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list generated in said generating of the identifier list from the mail gateway;

displaying, in the mail terminal, ~~based on the received identifier list, items indicating the~~ unique identifiers in the received identifier list, in a selectable manner;

preparing, in the mail terminal, ~~an attached file specifying e-mail a forwarding e-mail,~~ the forwarding e-mail being forward from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including a the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail included in the single e-mail corresponding the at least one unique identifier;

~~transmitting the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail prepared in said preparing of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail from the mail terminal to the mail gateway;~~

~~receiving, in the mail gateway, the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal to the mail gateway in said transmitting of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail;~~

~~acquiring, in the mail gateway, at least one attached file held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail the at least one attached files included in the single e-mail, based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~constructing, in the mail gateway, the file attached e-mail a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail from the mail terminal; and~~

~~distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached forwarding e-mail to a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail the another mail terminal.~~

Claims 25-27 (Canceled)

Claim 28 (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a mail gateway that is connected to a mail terminal via a network and to a mail server via another network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, and the mail server receiving an a single e-mail addressed to the user of the mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding a the plurality of attached files included in the received single e-mail, and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail,~~ said method comprising:

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail server, the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

generating the unique identifier for each of the plurality of attached files held by the mail server, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

generating the an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files, and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal;

receiving the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal the attached file specifying e-mail including at least one identifier among the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files;

transmitting, in the mail gateway to the mail server, a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;

acquiring, in the mail gateway from the mail server, acquiring at least one attached file from the mail server, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;

constructing the file a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail; and

transmitting the ~~file attached~~ forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached forwarding e-mail to the mail-server server;

receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway, displaying the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner, preparing the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier, and transmitting the prepared forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway; and

receiving, in the mail server, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail gateway and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claims 29-31 (Canceled)

Claim 32 (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a mail gateway that is connected to a mail terminal via a network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail,~~ said method comprising:

receiving, in the mail gateway, an a single e-mail addressed to the a user who possesses of the mail-terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding a the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail

generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and acquiring the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

generating the unique identifier for each of the plurality of attached files held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the acquired list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

generating ~~the an~~ identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files, and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal;

~~receiving the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the attached file specifying e-mail including at least one identifier among the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files~~ the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal;

~~acquiring at least one attached file held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail~~ the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail, based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;

~~constructing the a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail;~~
and

~~distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached forwarding e-mail to a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail the another mail terminal; and~~

~~receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway, displaying the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner, preparing the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier, and transmitting the prepared forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway.~~

Claims 33-35 (Canceled)

Claim 36 (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a mail terminal that is connected to a mail gateway via a network, the mail gateway being connected to a mail server via another network, the mail server receiving a single e-mail addressed to a user of the mail terminal, a plurality of attached files being included in the single e-mail, the mail server holding the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway receiving from the mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and the mail gateway receiving from the mail server the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request, the mail gateway generating a respectively-unique identifier for each of a plurality of attached files included in an e-mail addressed to a user of the mail terminal and managing the generated identifiers the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway generating an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by the mail gateway and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal, the mail gateway receiving a forwarding e-mail from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal, the mail gateway transmitting to the mail server a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier and receiving from the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail, said method comprising:

receiving a list of the unique identifiers the identifier list from the mail gateway for each of the plurality of attached files included in the e-mail;

displaying displaying, based on the received identifier list, items indicating the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list, in a selectable manner;

preparing an attached file specifying the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, the at least one identifier selected by the user corresponding to the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to the e-mail the at least one attached

file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and
transmitting the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail prepared in said preparing of
the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway gateway;
receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail server, the at least one attached file included
in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail,
constructing a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file received
from the mail server to the forwarding e-mail received from the mail terminal; and
receiving, in the mail server, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the
mail gateway and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claims 37 and 38 (Canceled)

Claim 39 (**Currently Amended**) A recording medium which is readable by a computer connected to a mail terminal via a network and to a mail server via another network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, and the mail server receiving an a single e-mail addressed to the a user of the mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding a the plurality of attached files included in the received single e-mail, and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, a computer program embodied on said recording medium causing the computer to conduct operations of a method comprising:~~

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique
identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the
plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and receiving, in the mail gateway from
the mail server, the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response
to the request;

generating the unique identifier for each of the plurality of attached files held by the mail
server, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based
on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

~~generating the an identifier list of the identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files, and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal;~~

~~receiving the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal the attached file specifying e-mail including at least one identifier among the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files;~~

~~transmitting, in the mail gateway to the mail server, a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~acquiring, in the mail gateway from the mail server, acquiring the at least one attached file from the mail server, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying single e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least on attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~constructing the a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail; and~~

~~transmitting the file attached forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached forwarding e-mail to the mail-server server;~~

~~receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway, displaying the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner, preparing the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier, and transmitting the prepared forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway; and~~

receiving, in the mail server, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail gateway and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claims 40-42 (Canceled)

Claim 43 (**Currently Amended**) A recording medium which is readable by a computer that is connected to a mail terminal via a network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, a computer program embodied on said recording medium causing the computer to conduct operations of a method comprising:~~

receiving, in the mail gateway, a single receiving an e-mail addressed to the a user who possesses of the mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding a the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and acquiring the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

generating the unique identifier for each of the attached files held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the acquired list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

generating the identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files, and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal;

receiving the attached file specifying e-mail transmitted a forwarding e-mail from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal the attached file specifying e-mail including

at least one identifier among the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files;

acquiring at least one attached file held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail, based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;

constructing the a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail; and

distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached forwarding e-mail to a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail the other mail terminal; and

receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway, displaying the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner, preparing the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier, and transmitting the prepared forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway.

Claims 44-46 (Canceled)

Claim 47 (Currently Amended) A recording medium which is readable by a computer that is connected to a mail gateway via a network, the mail gateway being connected to a mail server via another network, the mail server receiving a single e-mail addressed to a user of the mail terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, the mail server holding the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway receiving from the mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers

identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and the mail gateway receiving from the mail server the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request, the mail gateway generating a respectively-unique identifier for each of a plurality of attached files included in an e-mail addressed to a user of a mail terminal and managing the generated identifiers the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway generating an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by the mail gateway and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal, the mail gateway receiving a forwarding e-mail from the mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal, the mail gateway transmitting to the mail server a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier and receiving from the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail, a computer program embodied on said recording medium causing the computer to conduct operations of a method comprising:

receiving a list of the unique identifiers the identifier list from the mail gateway for each of the plurality of attached files included in the e-mail;

displaying, based on the received identifier list, items, indicating the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list, in a selectable manner;

preparing an attached file specifying the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including a the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, the at least one identifier selected by the user corresponding to the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to the file attached e-mail the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and

transmitting the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail prepared in said preparing of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway gateway;

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail server, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, constructing a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file received

from the mail server to the forwarding e-mail received from the mail terminal; and
receiving, in the mail server, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the
mail gateway and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claims 48 and 49 (Canceled)

Claim 50 (Currently Amended) A program embodied on a computer-readable medium of a computer connected to a mail terminal via a network and to a mail server via another network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, and the mail server receiving an a single e-mail addressed to the user a of the mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding a the plurality of attached files included in the received single e-mail, and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, said program causing the computer to conduct operations of a method comprising:~~

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail server, the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;

generating the unique identifier for each of the plurality of attached files held by the mail server, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;

generating the an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files, and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal;

receiving the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the attached file specifying e-mail including at least one identifier among the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail

terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal;

transmitting, in the mail gateway to the mail server, a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;

acquiring, acquiring at least one attached file from the mail server, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail in the mail gateway from the mail server, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;

constructing the a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail;
and

transmitting the file attached forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached e-mail to the mail server;

receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway, displaying the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner, preparing the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier, and transmitting the prepared forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway; and

receiving, in the mail server, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail gateway and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claims 51-53 (Canceled)

Claim 54 (Currently Amended) A program embodied on a computer-readable medium of a computer that is connected to a mail terminal via a network, ~~the mail terminal displaying, based on an identifier list, items indicating unique identifiers in a selectable manner and preparing an~~

~~attached file specifying e-mail including a unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by a user as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, said program causing the computer to conduct operations of a method comprising:~~

~~receiving, in a mail gateway, a single receiving an e-mail addressed to the a user who possesses of the mail terminal terminal, the single e-mail including a plurality of attached files, and holding a the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail terminal, a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and acquiring the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request;~~

~~generating the unique identifier for each of the attached files held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, respectively the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the acquired list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail;~~

~~generating the identifier list of the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files, and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal;~~

~~receiving the attached file specifying a forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail terminal, the attached file specifying e-mail including at least one identifier among the unique identifiers generated in said generating of the unique identifiers for each of the plurality of attached files the forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal;~~

~~acquiring at least one attached file held in said holding of the plurality of attached files, the at least one attached file corresponding to the at least one identifier included in the attached file specifying e-mail received in said receiving of the attached file specifying e-mail the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, the at least on attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier;~~

~~constructing the a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached~~

file acquired in said acquiring of the at least one attached file to the ~~attached file specifying forwarding~~ e-mail received in said receiving of the ~~attached file specifying forwarding~~ e-mail; and

distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail constructed in said constructing of the file attached forwarding e-mail to ~~a respective address of one or more receivers of the e-mail~~ the another e-mail terminal;

receiving, in the mail terminal, the identifier list from the mail gateway, displaying the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list in a selectable manner, preparing the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including the at least one unique identifier selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier, and transmitting the prepared forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway.

Claims 55-57 (Canceled)

Claim 58 (**Currently Amended**) A program embodied on a computer-readable medium of a computer that is connected to a mail gateway via a network, the mail gateway being connected to a mail server via another network, the mail server receiving a single e-mail addressed to a user of the mail terminal, a plurality of attached files being included in the single e-mail, the mail server holding the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail and generating a list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway receiving from the mail terminal a request for transmitting unique identifiers to the mail terminal, each of the unique identifiers identifying a respective one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, and the mail gateway receiving from the mail server the list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, in response to the request, the mail gateway generating a ~~respectively unique identifier for each of a plurality of attached files included in an e-mail addressed to a user of a mail terminal and managing the generated identifiers~~ the unique identifiers identifying each of the plurality of attached files, based on the received list of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail, the mail gateway generating an identifier list of the unique identifiers generated by the mail gateway and transmitting the identifier list to the mail terminal, the mail gateway receiving a forwarding e-mail from the mail terminal, the

forwarding e-mail being forwarded from the mail terminal to another mail terminal, the forwarding e-mail including at least one of the unique identifiers, the at least one unique identifier being selected at the mail terminal, the mail gateway transmitting to the mail server a request for transmitting to the mail gateway at least one of the plurality of attached files included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier and receiving from the mail server the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail, said program causing the computer to conduct operations of a method comprising:

receiving a list of the unique identifiers the identifier list from the mail gateway for each of the plurality of attached files included in the e-mail;

displaying, based on the received identifier list, items indicating the unique identifiers included in the received identifier list, in a selectable manner;

preparing an attached file specifying the forwarding e-mail, the forwarding e-mail including a the at least one unique identifier corresponding to an item selected by the user of the mail terminal as a substitute for at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to a file attached e-mail, the at least one identifier selected by the user corresponding to the at least one attached file that the user wants to attach to the file attached e-mail the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail corresponding to the at least one unique identifier; and

transmitting the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail prepared in said preparing of the attached file specifying forwarding e-mail to the mail gateway gateway;

receiving, in the mail gateway from the mail server, the at least one attached file included in the single e-mail based on the at least one unique identifier included in the forwarding e-mail, constructing a file attached forwarding e-mail by attaching the at least one attached file received from the mail server to the forwarding e-mail received from the mail terminal; and

receiving, in the mail server, the file attached forwarding e-mail transmitted from the mail gateway and distributing the file attached forwarding e-mail to the another mail terminal.

Claims 59 and 60 (Canceled)